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6. **(Twice Amended)** The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein the MBP gene was introduced into the cell *ex vivo* by DNA transfection.
7. **(Twice Amended)** The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein the MBP gene was introduced into the cell *ex vivo* by virus-mediated transduction.
8. **(Twice Amended)** The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein the MBP gene was introduced into the cell *ex vivo* by homologous recombination.
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16. **(Twice Amended)** A method for selectively inhibiting T cell activation in a transplanted T cell comprising
- (i) transplanting, into an animal, a T cell or a progenitor cell thereof, which T cell or progenitor cell thereof which has been engineered *ex vivo* to express an MBP gene encoding a mutated macrolide binding protein (MBP), the mutated MBP having an altered macrolide-binding specificity relative to the wild-type form MBP, and
- (ii) administering to the animal an amount of a macrolide sufficient to inhibit activation of the transplanted T cell or progenitor cell thereof, which macrolide selectively induces macrolide-dependent inhibition of activation of the transplanted T cell, in a manner dependent on the expression of the mutated MBP, when compared to cells expressing a wild-type form of the MBP.
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20. **(Twice Amended)** The method of claim 16, wherein the MBP gene was introduced into the cell *ex vivo* by DNA transfection.
21. **(Twice Amended)** The method of claim 16, wherein the MBP gene was introduced into the cell *ex vivo* by virus-mediated transduction.
22. **(Twice Amended)** The method of claim 16, wherein the MBP gene was introduced into the cell *ex vivo* by homologous recombination.
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Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made." For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined, whether or not amended, are presented in that section.

Remarks

Claims 1-27, 29-33, 36, 38 and 39 are currently being examined. Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 16, 20, 21 and 22 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 32, 33, 36 and 44 are allowed.